

A. AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace paragraph [045] with the following amended paragraph:

[045] Note that the illustrated embodiment shown in Figures 1-4B is but one possible configuration for encapsulating the stator 52 with the covering portion 54. Indeed, in accordance with other embodiments, more or less of the stator can be enveloped by the covering portion 54. For example, the covering material can be applied such that the stator is completely covered or encapsulated thereby, as shown by ESA 150 in Figure 7; thus no portion of the stator would be visible upon inspection. Correspondingly, the covering material can be applied to the stator such that a relatively substantial portion of the stator is left exposed. These and other similar variations of the stator/covering portion configuration are therefore contemplated as part of the present invention.

Please replace paragraph [072] with the following amended paragraph:

[072] In addition to x-ray absorbing powders, the ESA 150 can incorporate other x-ray absorbing structures in order to shield x-rays. One example is x-ray opaque plating that can be applied to inner or outer surfaces of the ESA, or incorporated within the body of the ESA itself. For example, Figure 7 shows one possible location for placement of an x-ray opaque plating at an end surface of the ESA 150, indicated at 160. ~~These are just two examples of x-ray shielding that can be incorporated into the ESA of the present invention.~~ Other shielding structures and methods are also contemplated by the present invention.